



# Disability loophole jars mom

LEGISLATION

Mandated sprinkler tech feared to cost up to \$50,000



Jeremy Simes For Metro | Calgary

Vivian MacCallum's grin became a frown as she learned her daughter's care home isn't exempt from the government's repeal of the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) Safety Standards Regulation.

Prior to its repeal, the PDD regulations required the installation of sprinklers and anti-scald devices to make homes safer for residents with disabilities.

But according to Municipal Affairs Minister Danielle Larivee, the repeal doesn't apply to homes where disabled occupants solely depend on staff in the event of a fire, or where a person may be detained as part of their service plans.

MacCallum's daughter, Leanne, falls under that soledependence category, Vivian said.

"(The government) gives us all the good news at the top and then they stick this clause at the bottom," Vivian said. "My daughter's home is now in jeopardy again."

Vivian said it'll cost her anywhere from \$22,000-\$50,000 to install sprinklers in the house.

But Human Services spokesman Aaron Manton said retrofits to PDD homes are only required when directed by a Safety Code Officer based on an inspection.



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Your essential daily news

Poll shows Canadians finding it harder to feed their families. Business

## When robots go medieval

COMPETITION

#### Local high schoolers take part in annual themed event

Stephanie Joe For Metro | Calgary

Kyle Hall combines his skills and passion at this year's international robotics competition.

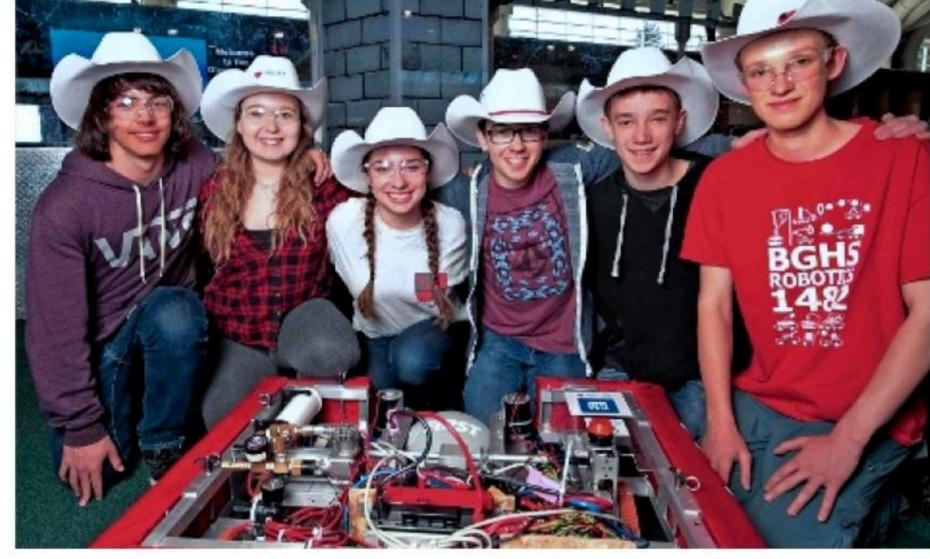
The fourth annual 2016 First Robotics Competition Western Canada Regional is being held at the Olympic Oval from April 3 to 6. There are 36 teams at this international competition and Bishop Grandin High School is competing with its team, The Ghosts.

"I've always had an interest in building things and when I came to high school this was just a natural thing for me," said Hall, who is team leader for The Ghosts.

"It takes those skills and passions that I've always enjoyed and puts them into practical use in building robots and it's also a lot of fun."

Max Kaulback, mentor for The Ghosts and president of the First Robotics Society for Western Canada, said that this year's medieval-themed competition will require the teams to break down their opponents tower with boulders, which are essentially foam rubber balls. There are obstacles for the robots to tackle such as moats and drawbridges, he said.

If anyone is interested in



taking part in the competition, according to Kaulback, it's as simple as forming a team at your high school or he can find a team for you to participate in.

"We're always looking for mentors and sponsors," he said. "North Hill Centre is where we have our practice field that they donated to us."

Kaulback said that his role as a mentor is to guide the participants, but they take on most of the workload themselves.



I've always had an interest in building things. Kyle Hall

"They do all the design work and they do all the build work - they do it all," he said. "That's the only way they can learn. It's great fun."

The awards ceremony will be held on April 6.



Above: From left, Martin Riley, Tea Zagorac, Michaela Gartner, Zach Shvartsburd, Tyler Gambles and Kyle Hall all worked on Spooky 13, the robot they entered in this year's FIRST Robotics contest at the Olympic Oval on Sunday.

Left: Hall, a returning competitor at the event, with Spooky 13. KENNETH APPLEBY/METRO



#### **IN BRIEF**

#### **Drunk driver suspected** in crash north of Calgary

Four people including a four-year-old boy were hurt in a crash on the QEII highway north of Airdrie Sunday afternoon.

RCMP say they have arrested a female driver for impaired driving.

After responding to the crash site south of Highway 72, paramedics transported the female driver of one car to the Foothills Hospital in stable and non-lifethreatening condition. A four-year-old boy from the same vehicle was flown by STARS helicopter to the Alberta Children's Hospital in serious but stable condition.

The occupants of the second car, a man and a woman, were also transported by paramedics to hospital. METRO

#### Person severely injured in Edmonton fire escape

One person was sent to hospital in Edmonton after jumping from the sixthfloor of an apartment building during a fire.

Smoke was billowing out of the suite when firefighters arrived at the building on Edmonton's south side early Sunday morning. The person who jumped suffered severe injuries. A spokesperson with Edmonton Fire Rescue could not confirm what the person landed on.

The fire was contained to the suite and was declared out within an hour. THE CANADIAN PRESS









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The number of

allegations of

hospital and

abuse made

from April to

June of 2015.

care home

## System scarred family: Father

Care facilities described as flawed, in need of an overhaul



Jeremy Simes For Metro | Calgary

F.G. came out of rehab with more emotional pain than he had when entering the southern Alberta facility.

Many Calgarians have recently stepped forward to share their stories about Alberta's mental health system, which most describe as flawed and in desperate need of an overhaul.

F.G. — who requested to remain anonymous and suffers from emotional trauma loves the movies, so much so that he once co-created and acted in a local flick.

"He loved it and still loves them," said F.G's father, N.G. "It kept him motivated."

But a sucker-punch to the



The father of a former Claresholm Centre patient says his son endured painful experiences with the province's current system. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

head by a high school bully caused an emotional scar that would linger - he became mentally unstable, he said.

After routine hospitalizations, F.G was admitted to

www.bestbuyautofinance.ca

Claresholm Centre for Mental Health and Addictions, a place where F.G.'s dreams of becoming a movie director died, said N.G.

"(Staff) told him he's not go-

ing to become anything," he said. "I said, 'How could you say that?' You can be realistic to a limit, but not so much so that would destroy the person.

"We were even told by our

social worker to get (F.G.) out — it wasn't a good place."

The family has filed many complaints, but say none have resulted in action.

Founded cases of Alberta hospital and care home abuse has steadily declined over the past few years. From April to June of 2015, 91 allegations were made. and 6 were founded and 8 not-founded via investigations.

Health Minister Sarah Hoffman said it's important for patients to file complaints if they feel like they're being mistreated.

She said she appreciates the work of peace officer staff, but is also open to discussions with justice department to identify possible areas of expanding training for the guards.

Alberta's Mental Health Advocate was not made available for an interview - the health department said she can only

speak about her role and not the system.

F.G. spent almost four years at Claresholm before his father managed to have him return home about two years ago.

He also now has a psychiatrist who truly understands him, N.G. added.

"As much as there is bad, we have to highlight the good," he said. "There are people out there who care."

F.G., too, has slowly begun to take interest in movie-making again.

"I plan to be back into it by the end of this year," he said.

"I went through hell and back, but it's made me strong-



I went through hell and back, but it's made me stronger.

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## Newcomers rock alongside legends

JUNO AWARDS

Economy sees \$10M boost, according to Mayor Nenshi



Aaron Chatha Metro | Calgary

When Calgary high-school student Sam Spensley met Shawn Mendes backstage and performed live in front of thousands with Lights, she reacted like any calm and collected teenager.

"I met Shawn Mendes a few minutes ago and screamed like a little girl," she said. "I met Lights and cried."

Spensley had the opportunity to perform with Lights in front of 12,000 audience members in the Saddledome through the MusiCounts Children's Legacy Foundation.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi estimated that the Juno Awards brought \$10-\$15 million into the local economy through events like JUNOfest.

The Blues Can manager Ryan

MacGowan said the venue was packed for both nights of JUNOfest.

"Calgary has a great music scene. It really does. Lots of local talent here," he said, adding that Calgary musicians don't get enough credit. "Not as much as they should, but definitely people are noticing. We're one of the only live music venues that has 12 acts a week and we're not struggling."

Elisa Grosser, of JUNOfest participating venue Lolita's Lounge, agreed.

"For live entertainment, for the up-and-coming acts, (the Junos) will help a lot. Hopefully artists come back and want to play again here," she said. "I think there's a pretty good music scene here. A lot of our customers who come here on Fridays have won awards, so we're pretty happy for them. It is a big city, especially for the jazz community."

The awards were hosted Sunday night at the Scotiabank Saddledome by Jann Arden and Jon Montgomery.

The big winner of the weekend was The Weeknd.

The Ontario-born performer

took home five Juno Awards, including Single of the Year and Album of the Year.

Though he's notoriously media shy — the Ontario-born performer didn't even show up at the Saturday-night gala where he won his first three awards and declined to speak to press during the broadcast awards on Sunday — his fans couldn't be silenced during his brief acceptance speeches and medley performance.

The crowd's enthusiasm was obvious all night but especially so during newcomer Alessia Cara's performance of Here, set amid a tableau of performers posed against the tepid house party described in her song.

Cara took home the breakthrough artist of the year award.

She entered the press room backstage with a nervous energy, laughing off the fact she couldn't hear reporter questions as a marching band decided to play at just that moment.

"I still feel nervous and I'm so sweaty," she laughed, pointing out this is the first award acceptance speech she'd ever given.



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NEWS

FUNDING

### Alberta businesses see a \$335M boost



Told to seek financial help elsewhere during trying times, Alberta businesses looking for a boost are finding much help from the province's government-owned bank.

Since the government increased ATB Financial's lending capacity by giving the financial institution \$1.5 billion in liquidity and capital to expand small- and medium-sized business loans, ATB increased its loans by \$335 million during its fourth quarter.

Wellington Holbrook, ATB's executive vice-president for business and agriculture, said the loan increase is significant, adding the \$1.5 billion expansion helps business owners who may have been turned down by other banks that aren't inclined to lend given the economic downturn.

Alfred Lehar, associate professor at the University of Calgary Haskayne School of Business, said ATB's loans could come with some risk, adding the overall idea is reasonable.

"It's still hard to tell how this is going to play out," he said. "ATB has this local knowledge other banks might not have so, during this downturn, it's important to have that local expertise."

Holbrook said ATB isn't incurring more risk because of the \$1.5 billion injection.

"We're being realistic," he said. "It could be a prolonged downturn and our risk models are built for that."

And despite the oil and gas sector taking a hit, Holbrook added other sectors — specifically manufacturing — are benefiting, as B.C. and the United States are performing better economically.

"There are lots of opportunities to grow and we're there to help them."



A girl from Kugluktuk shows off the bike she received from the Polar Bike Project. Alison Harper, founder of the Polar Bike Project, hopes to see every Nunavut community get some bikes donated to them. CONTRIBUTED

## Bike project still going strong

He was the

happiest little

boy I'd ever

seen.

Alison Harper

NUNAVUT

## Ex-Calgarian wants to bring bikes to every community

Stephanie Joe

For Metro | Calgary

It's been nearly one year since a former Calgary native started the Polar Bike Project, but she's still going strong.

Alison Harper, the founder of the Polar Bike

of the Polar Bike Project, and her husband were avid bikers before they moved to Kugluktuk, Nunavut.

She rode her bike to work nearly everyday and when she

didn't one day, because it was too muddy, a group of five boys called her out on it.

"I said, 'Well let's go riding tomorrow,' and there was one little boy that showed up the next day and he didn't have a bike," said Harper. "I managed to find him a bike that had been abandoned in the community and he was the happiest little boy I'd ever seen."

Harper decided to make a

simple Facebook post and social media took it from there. Last year they gave away a total of 80 bikes, according to Harper.

"Not everyone can afford to buy (his or her) kid a bike," she said. "The kids are now able to have a bike that they can call their own and they're learning how to take care of their bikes. It's definitely helped with (lessening) the breaking of windows and the vandalism in town."

Harper's next step is to expand the project. She's currently working with a man from eastern Canada to help get

bikes to different eastern Nunavut communities.

"I'd love to see every Nunavut community get some bikes donated to them," she said.

Violet Etoktok, a resident

of Kugluktuk, said that four of her children received bikes from the Polar Bike Project.

"I was out of town when my kids got bikes, and when I came back they all had bikes and they were excited about them," she said. "I kind of teared up. I was really happy"

To donate visit the Polar Bike Project page on Facebook or visit the group's GoFundMe page.





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NEWS



Some crosswalks in Calgary are being outfitted with neon sleeves to help show where crosswalks are located in Calgary. The elementary school Our Lady Of The Assumption had one of their crosswalks outfitted with the new signage. KENNETH APPLEBY/METRO

## City pilot targets pedestrian safety

CROSSWALK

Reflective sleeves to make people feel safer



Helen Pike Metro | Calgary

The city is getting ready to roll up their sleeves, and roll out a product that could help pedestrians feel safer.

The program has been piloting in northwest Calgary with positive feedback from residents, so there's a chance more crosswalks across the city could be getting the reflective sleeves.

At \$30 a pop, they're a costeffective step to help the city improve crosswalk visibility, and have little upkeep. Rapid Flashing Beacons (RFB) cost about \$30,000. The sleeves have a 360 degree view, and are said to be more visible than bigger and more expensive signs.

Coun. Ward Sutherland, who has had positive feedback about the project, said he's hoping they will extend the sleeves into school zones city-wide.

"They're going really well," said Sutherland. The councillor was concerned when communities who were asking for, and needed, improved visibility for pedestrian crossings weren't eligible for the expensive RFB. After doing some research and finding solutions in other jurisdictions he went to the folks in the Roads department, who came up with a made-in-Calgary solution.

"They're really economical...
we have the possibility of rolling
these out across the city, and
maybe at all the school zones
too."

Sutherland said the cost, at approximately \$800,000 for the school zones, could be allocated through using part of the \$73 million in surplus capital from 2015.

"The intention of the reflective sleeves, especially on roads that have a curve or vertical curve, they increase the reflective nature of the crossing," said Troy McLeod, director of Roads. "This enhances the signage, so we don't have to spend the money on larger signs."

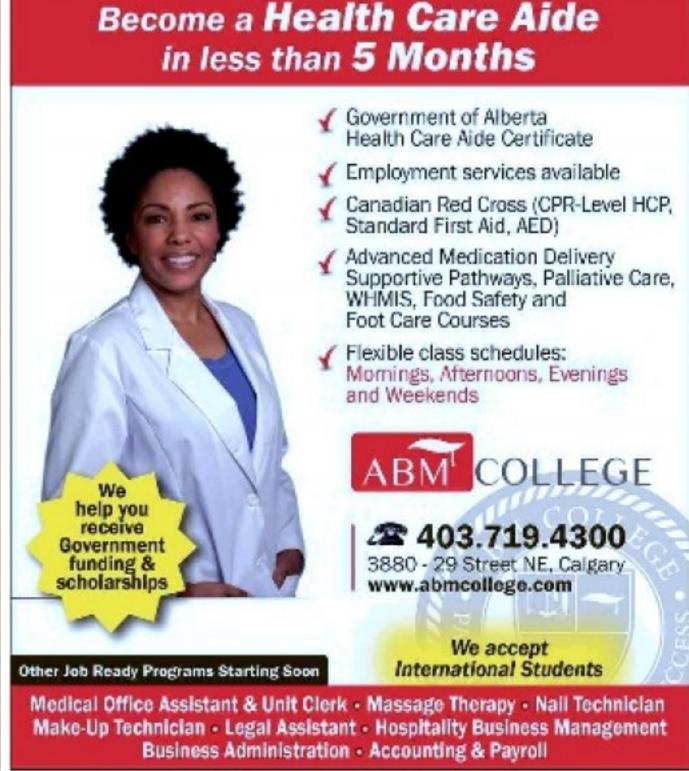
Many communities looking to acquire the popular RFB system often fail to rack up a score high enough on the warrant scale for the expensive piece of infrastructure. So, this sleeve, which isn't an expensive ask, could be the half-way step for some communities.

"Because the Rapid Flashing Beacons have a larger cost to install them we rank requests based on criteria: including vehicle volume, and roadway width," McLeod said. "These locations where the sleeves have been installed are locations where we're looking for higher conspicuity—generally the road is curved, there's higher pedestrian counts, but they don't quite meet the warrant for the actuated device."

The city's crosswalk hierarchy goes from unmarked to marked, reflective sleeves, RFB, traffic signal and so on.



two sausages only. No substitutions. Beverages not included. Dine in only.





The community of Edgemont is divided over a proposed levy that would pay the city to do extra gardening and park maintenance, KENNETH APPLEBY/FOR METRO

## Flowertax feedback not all rosy

COMMUNITY

Edgemont woman takes stand against proposed levy

Stephanie Joe For Metro | Winnipeg

An Edgemont woman opposed to a tax that "enhances" the boulevard says that it's not about the money - it's about the principle.

ing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services may recommend a special tax in the Edgemont community. The tax is an \$84 increase and includes mowing, trimming, planting and maintenance of perennial and annual flowers. litter control, and

snow removal for the boule-

The request came from residents, but Dolores Henkelman, a member of the Edge-

mont community for 37 years, said that of the 5,331 eligible properties in Edgemont, hers is one that does not support the tax increase.

"We can afford it, but you get people who can't afford it," she said. "They lost their jobs and don't care about some flowers on a boulevardthey care about paying their mortgage."

Henkelman and her husband are a part of a group called RECALL - Residents of Edgemont Community Against LEAF Levy, which is against the special tax.

"We've lived here peace-On April 6, the city's Stand- fully, minded our own busi-

> ness, raised our kids, paid taxes. and never got involved with anything until this happened," she said. "This is pitting residents against residents."

Sean Chu, councillor for the ward, supports the tax and said that he is a voice of the people and that

he must listen to them.

"This is ... democracy at its best," said Chu. "When an overwhelming majority says yes, who am I to say no?"

This is democracy at its best. When an overwhelming majority says yes, who am I to say no?

The proposed tax

extra \$84 per household in the

towards general upkeep in the neighbourhood.

community, going

amounts to an

Coun. Sean Chu

### Boy recalls 'nightmare' of police dog attack



Twelve-year-old Ali Hassan said he's had a hard time falling asleep since being bitten by an off-duty police dog who broke out of his yard and chased Ali into his Aspen Hills home Wednesday.

"I try to forget about it, but sometimes at night I start thinking about it and think for some reason it's going to happen again,

even though I know the dog has been taken away," he told Metro Friday.

Chief Roger Chaffin said an off-duty CPS canine unit officer and service dog, named Marco, were in the fenced backyard of their home in Aspen Hills Ali Hassan at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Marco broke out of the yard and went onto the street where the dog encountered Ali and his two siblings playing.

"Before I was already afraid



CONTRIBUTED

of dogs, especially big ones like that size," he said. "It was my instinct to run away because when he came up and I got very scared so I just started running and when I looked behind me and he started sprinting."

The boy said he tried to keep Marco out of his house, but he was unsuccessful.

"I tried to go through the door in my garage into my kitchen and

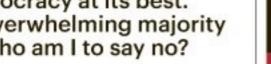
block the door on him, but he just busted through it," he said. "He jumped on top of me and kept biting on my leg and just kept pushing deeper and deeper — it felt like a nightmare."

Hassan's father, Mustafa Hassan, said the situation was frightening for the whole family.

Mustafa said Chief Roger Chaffin and many other CPS officers visited Ali and his family in the hospital, offering their apologies and taking full responsibility for the incident.



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### MakeFashion makes waves



Technology and design combined for an electric display of lights on cuts on Saturday at the annual MakeFashion show at the Telus Spark. The show challenges designers to use cutting-edge technology in creating fashion-forward garments.



LEFT:

Phi:Gamergirl is a pretty dress highlighting the gamification of clothing with individual LED lights that react if the player wins or loses.

#### CENTRE:

Model Danuta Darling shows off a dress by Virtually Vogue team Catherine Larose, Dianne Gibson, Maria Hoover, Shannon Hoover and Alexis Friesen.

#### RIGHT:

Ex Machina is a cyborg costume that uses micro controllers, accelerometers, proximity sensors, touch sensors and sound sensors.







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NEWS Calgary

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## Film explores gay Hutterite's story



Kelly Hofer's story has been recorded in a short documentary, Queer Hutterite, available on Telus Optik TV on Demand and Telus Optik Local online. CONTRIBUTED/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

DOCUMENTARY

#### Photographer not expecting acceptance but seeks tolerance

Kelly Hofer always felt different, but realizing you're gay while growing up on a Hutterite colony in rural Manitoba isn't just unusual — it's almost unheard of.

The 23-year-old photographer's story has been recorded in a short documentary film, Queer Hutterite, available on Telus Optik TV on Demand and Telus Optik Local online. Hofer was about 16 when he realized he was gay, but even before that he says he always knew he didn't fit in with the other boys on his colony near Wawanesa southeast of Brandon.

"I was always the artist. They were always the boys. I was always the creative one. I didn't really play a lot of sports," Hofer

"They would always play hockey, and I would be at home either on the computer, playing Legos, creating art or shooting photos."

He left the colony when he

"I realized being at home and being gay were not compatible. I was shunned in that I couldn't



## The reason I have hope is it's such a compassionate culture.

Kelly Hofer

come home because I was gay for three years.

"But in the grand scheme of things, I wasn't banned from the culture entirely," he continued.

"They want less to do with me, and by 'they,' I mean the leaders of the colony."

He isn't expecting acceptance but is hoping for tolerance.

"I'm not going to give up on

that. But I also know the culture, and it doesn't change in less than 50 years."

Laura O'Grady, the Calgary filmmaker responsible for the 15-minute documentary, convinced Hofer to allow her to do the film.

"He's an incredibly articulate young man, and I thought it was a unique perspective that I don't think has been heard a lot in the past," she said.

"He's very respectful of the community he came from, and I could see the internal conflict for him in terms of other things in his life.

"He's incredibly brave for standing up for who he is." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NEWS **12** | Monday, April 4, 2016

**CALGARY HEROES** Ordinary people doing extraordinary things!

## Collecting one million smiles

**ALTRUISM** 

#### **Akeam Francis** finds wealth of another sort in helping others



Jennifer Friesen For Metro

Akeam Francis said it all happened in "the flick of a nickel."

He went to bed one night with everything he thought he needed: a well-paying job, a place to live and his health. By the next morning, it was all gone. He was badly beaten overnight and lost both his job and his home.

"I was really depressed after that," he said. "But it wasn't until I had everything taken away from me that I started thinking: Maybe I do need some help right now, but what about all the people, in Calgary alone, that need my help? That's what really set it off and made me

say, 'Let's do this.'"

The 22-year-old has since dedicated his time to building Calgary Helpers, a.k.a. the Smile Gang.

With his friends, Francis travels the city, knocking on doors and offering help to anyone who needs it - landscaping yards for seniors, helping someone move or doing dishes.

"If something needs to get done, let the Calgary Helpers help," he said. "This is a selfless world, if you can imagine it. If someone is in a crisis and they need help, they can just call us and, boom, it's done. That's what I live for, seeing those smiles and that sigh of relief."

With a grant from the 17th Avenue BRZ, Francis purchased a truck for the Calgary Helpers so he can help someone move more easily and bring the tools he needs.

He offers his help free of charge but accepts donations if they're offered - from a snack for his team or gas money.

"We just want to get the work done and focus on that,"

#### **Nomination**

To nominate someone as a Calgary Hero, send an email to calletters@ metronews.ca

said Francis. "I love Calgary, and there are people here who are on limited income and can't afford to pay a landscaping company or movers, and those are the people we're going for."

Last week, Francis gave himself one more goal: He wants to collect one million smiles. With every small job, he fills out another page in his book with the hope of having one million pages by the end of the summer.

"Someone said if you want things to change in your life. you have to change things in your life," he said.

To reach out to the Calgary Helpers, email them at thecalgaryhelpers@gmail.com or go to their Facebook page.



On Saturday afternoon, Akeam Francis, 22, made his way to northwest Calgary to help a family move into their new home. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

#### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



Notice is hereby given that United Way of Calgary and Area's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held:

> Tuesday, April 26, 2016 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM

U of C Downtown Campus Event Centre 906 8th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta

The formal component of the meeting will include the presentation of audited financial statements, election of directors and other business as may properly come before the meeting.

A copy of the 2015 AGM minutes and 2015 audited financials may be viewed online at www.calgaryunitedway.org or obtained from the Office of the President, United Way of Calgary and Area, Suite 600, 105 12 Avenue SE, Calgary, AB, T2G 1A1.

To attend, please RSVP by Tuesday, April 19, 2016 online at http://www.calgaryunitedway.org/events.



Fri April 22nd @ 7-9pm Sat April 23rd @ 11am - 1pm Sun April 24th @10am - 12pm

Lunch will be served on Saturday and Sunday

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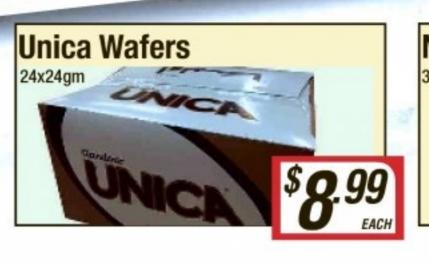
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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at Liberal party headquarters in Montreal after winning the election. An analysis shows that the biggest spenders did not win on Oct. 19. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

# Big bucks are not a road to victory

#### Money doesn't guarantee election results, analysis shows

Money can't buy you votes.

Or so it would seem, according to campaign financial reports filed with Elections Canada by the men and women who were seeking a House of Commons seat in last fall's federal election.

More often than not, the biggest spenders did not win on Oct. 19, an analysis by The Canadian Press indicates.

And while spending big bucks didn't necessarily guarantee victory, not spending enough to at least stay competitive with rival candidates was an almost certain path to defeat, the analysis shows.

Of the top 100 spenders in the election, 57 failed in their election bids, with 12 of those losing to a competitor who also cracked the top 100.

The results among the top 50 spenders were even worse, with about three-fifths of them - 31 candidates in all - running unsuccessfully. Of those, six lost to another candidate in the top 50.

The analysis is based on expenses reported by candidates

that counted as part of their legal spending limits. It did not include personal and other expenses - like gas and mileage for a personal vehicle, child care or thank-you receptions for volunteers - which must be reported to Elections Canada but don't count against the spending cap.

The analysis may help explain why the marathon 11-week campaign came down to a battle between the better-resourced Liberals and Conservatives, with the NDP and Greens squeezed out.

On average, Conservative candidates spent \$90,665, outpacing the \$71,660 spent by Liberals. The average NDP candidate spent just \$54,404. THE CANADIAN PRESS



#### 90,665

Average expenses, subject to spending limits, by Conservative candidates

#### 71,660

Average expenses, subject to spending limits, by Liberal candidates

#### 54,404

Average expenses, subject to spending limits, by NDP candidates

### Refugees searching for sponsors

Muneer al Zahabi had been in Iordan for nearly three years among over half a million Syrians there crammed into apartments and camps. It was safer than sleeping in the bathtub in their house in Syria for protection from missiles.

They wanted a home in another country. But his family is five of 4.2 million refugees. So Zahabi took things into

gration Department website. he found the list of more than 80 organizations who hold agreements with the government to facilitate the private sponsorship of refugees. And he started emailing them. Then the Liberals were

his own hands. On the Immi-

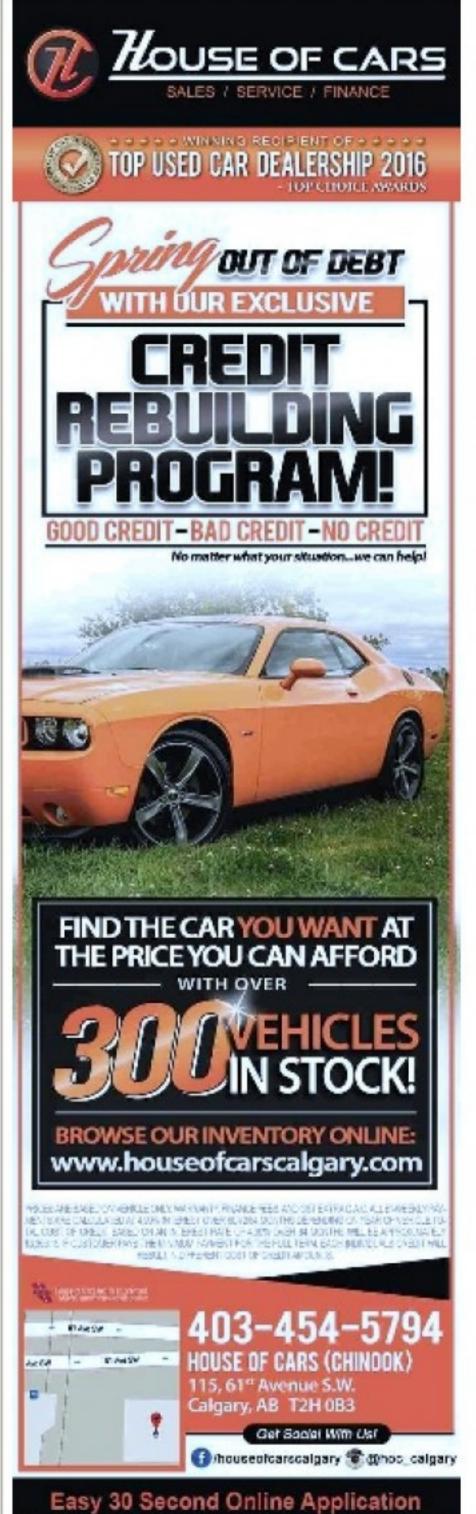
elected and promised to resettle 25,000 Syrians. Private groups working with the formal sponsorship agreement

holders started springing up across the country. So Zahabi looked them up, posting his story on their Facebook pages and directly emailing the websites of others. The response was often similar disbelief, mistrust. But late last year, something clicked.

Patricia Chartier had helped set up the email address for her Toronto-based sponsorship group. She was

shocked by how many letters came directly from Syrians.

Among the emails was Zahabi's. Something drew her in, and she began trying to find someone who would sponsor his family. Zahabi does not want to get his hopes up too high. But at least someone was finally willing to listen, he said, and in Chartier, he now has a Canadian friend. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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18 Monday, April 4, 2016 Canada Metr® NEWS

### Woman hurt after plunging off Signal Hill

NEWFOUNDLAND

#### Police say the incident is 'a bit of a new one for us'

A 20-year-old woman whose car plunged down iconic Signal Hill in St. John's jumped or was ejected just before it crashed partway down a rocky cliff Sunday high over the Atlantic Ocean.

St. John's platoon fire chief Rick Mackey said the woman somehow breached the gate at the popular national historic site around 8 a.m.

Mackey said the woman was either thrown or jumped from the vehicle as it nosedived over the wind-swept rock face just below Cabot Tower, coming to rest about 90 metres down the 250-metre cliff. a bit of a new one for us," said Mackey, who has been a firefighter for 30 years. "I've never seen anything like that before."

Mackey said the woman, the car's only occupant, landed roughly 45 metres down the cliff face and was rescued by emergency crews within about 20 minutes. She was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

"I can't even speculate on how or why she managed to be up there" said Mackey adding that the investigation is ongoing.

Royal Newfoundland Constabulary spokesman Const. Geoff Higdon said no foul play is suspected. He said the woman's identity is not being released at this time

Higdon said the car was in an area closed to traffic. A wooden gate down an access road below Cabot Tower was open Sunday afternoon and appeared to have been damaged.



One woman was taken to hospital after a dramatic crash on Signal Hill on Sunday, KEITH GOSSE/STJOHN'S EVENING TELEGRAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

RISING COSTS

### Rural areas struggle to fund policing

Smaller communities across the country have been grappling with what they view as an ever-increasing tax bite for policing they can barely afford.

Some say they have had to raise property taxes by as much as 20 to 30 per cent to pay for increases in police costs.

Christian Leuprecht, a professor at the Royal Military College of Canada who has studied the issue, said rising security costs are hurting communities across Canada.

"The real problem is in the rural areas," Leuprecht said. "Their tax base is stagnant. They're cannibalizing all other aspects of their budget to pay for policing."

Some communities, with their limited tax bases, are seeing upwards of 25 or 30 per cent of their total budgets go toward policing.

One hard-hit area is in rural eastern Ontario, where communities were surprised to discover they're paying tens of thousands of dollars for police service to wind turbines and cellphone towers.

The issue is especially galling, said one mayor, given his municipality's embrace of green energy.

"We've got 86 of them here so it's big numbers," said Denis Doyle, mayor of Frontenac Islands, population 2,000.

"We went out of our way to support the windmill rollout and now we feel like we've been kicked in the teeth when you find out they charge us back any money we might get from taxes just to pay (police)."

The problem arose as Ontario sought to come up with a more equitable formula for those towns and communities that contract out police services to Ontario provincial police.

The revised formula relies on municipal assessment data that essentially counts the number of residences and commercial buildings in a community.

One problem, the mayors say, is that a wind turbine or cell tower is considered a unit on a par with other commercial buildings, such as a shopping mall or multi-unit apartment tower.

Adding insult to injury is that municipalities are not allowed to charge normal tax rates for green-energy projects, Doyle said.

"Basically, they downloaded the (provincial police) costs to us and take all the money we get in taxes for supporting their wind-turbine promotion and developments across the province."

For Doyle, the revised formula, being phased in over four years starting last year, is "massive" and unreasonable.

"In the rural communities, there's very little policing required; we're pretty much a law-abiding bunch," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### Seniors facility lays off more than 150 staff

A seniors-care home on Vancouver Island is laying off its entire staff thanks to what the facility's operator calls years of chronic underfunding from the region's health authority.

More than 150 employees at Wexford Creek Care Home in Nanaimo, B.C., ranging from nurses to care aides, received pink slips on Friday.

There is a 150-resident capacity at the facility, where services range from complex care to private, assisted living.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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## Data released on offshore accounts

**PANAMA PAPERS** 

#### Records detail holdings of world leaders and others

An international coalition of media outlets on Sunday published what it said was an extensive investigation into the offshore financial dealings of the rich and famous, based on a vast trove of documents provided by an anonymous source.

The International Consortium of Investigative Journalism, a

non-profit organization based in Washington, said the cache of 11.5 million records detailed the offshore holdings of a dozen current and former world leaders, as well as businessmen, criminals, celebrities and sports stars.

The Associated Press wasn't immediately able to verify the allegations made in articles that were published by the more than 100 news organizations around the world involved in the investigation.

However, the German newspaper Sueddeutsche Zeitung, which first received the data more than a year ago, said it was confident the material was

genuine.

The Munich-based daily was offered the data through an encrypted channel by an anonymous source, said Bastian Obermayer, a reporter for the

The data concerned internal documents from a Panamabased law firm, Mossack Fonseca. Founded by German-born Juergen Mossack, the firm has offices across the globe and is among the world's biggest creators of shell companies, the newspaper said.

ICIJ said the law firm's leaked internal files contain information on 214,488 offshore entities connected to people in more than

C LEAK

According to the media group's website, global banks including HSBC, UBS, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and others have worked with Mossack Fonseca to create offshore accounts.

200 countries and territories.

Obermayer said that over the course of several months Sueddeutsche Zeitung received about 2.6 terabytes of data - more than would fit on 600 DVDs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



#### **DEPORTATION OF** MIGRANTS TO BEGIN A

Syrian refugee holds a child carrying a placard reading "we ask the EU governments to help us," and a distressing claim, as refugees and migrants protest on Sunday. An agreement between the European Union and Turkey to deport migrants on Greek islands back to the Turkish mainland takes effect Monday morning. Migrants arriving in Greece will be sent to Turkey if they don't apply for asylum. For every person sent back, the EU would take in one person with a legitimate asylum request. AFP/GETTY IMAGES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### **IN BRIEF**

#### Rain, floods kill 45 in northwest Pakistan

Flash floods triggered by torrential rains Sunday killed at least 45 people in northwest Pakistan. officials said.

Rains started overnight Saturday and caused flash flooding in several districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, said a Pakistani national disaster management official, Latif ur Rehman. Another 34 people were admitted to hospitals with injuries, he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Brussels airport rebounds

It was an emotional send-off on Sunday for a Brussels Airlines plane heading to the Portuguese city of Faro - the first passenger flight to take off from Brussels Airport since suicide bombings on March 22 ripped through its check-in counters and killed 16 people.

Airport officials suggested the first flight out was a symbolic victory over those who sowed death and hate, but said it would be months until full service is back.

Security at the airport was tight with new check-in procedures for passengers in temporary structures.

Two other planes were leaving Sunday - Brussels Airlines flights to Athens and Turin, Italy. The three flights were a test run for a European aviation hub that used to handle 600 flights a day and plans to slowly climb back to normal capacity.

Arnaud Feist, the CEO of Brussels Airport Co., said at a Saturday news conference that the three flights were a "sign of hope" following "the darkest days in the history of aviation in Belgium."

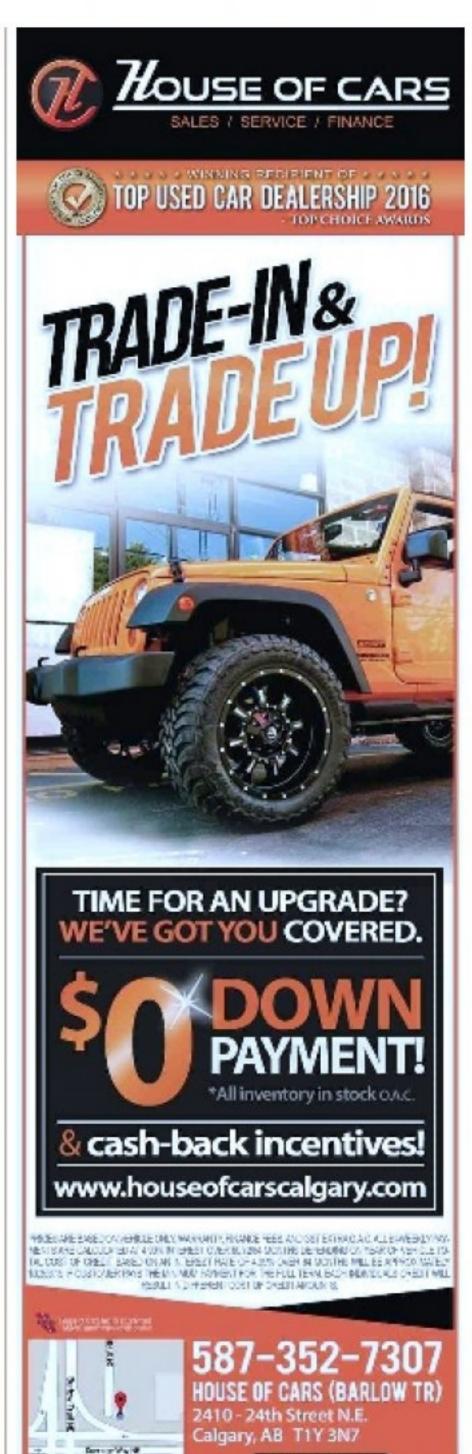
On Sunday, he thanked employees for their courage, solidarity and the "impressive work carried out in so little time."

"We are more than an airport ... We are a family more bound together than ever," he said.

Damage was extensive when double suicide bombs exploded near its crowded check-in counters 12 days ago, killing 16 and maiming people from around the world. Another bombing that day on a Brussels subway train killed 16 other people. Both attacks were claimed by Daesh.

Feist said Belgium's biggest airport would gradually climb to 20 per cent of capacity in the coming days, able to process 800 passengers an hour.

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**20** Monday, April 4, 2016 World | metr@NEWS

## WWII vet, 93, finally gets his medal for Nazi camp escape

Edwin Shifrin's family knew he escaped from a Nazi prison camp during World War II, but it wasn't until one of his children started digging into his wartime past that they learned the details of the clever escape.

St. Louis, Mo. resident Shifrin, 93, seldom discussed his time at war, but he received a prisoner-of-war medal in February after son Dan Shifrin dug through old news reports and military records and pieced together what happened.

"It is an amazing story," said Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill, who expedited the medal process after hearing about it from Shifrin's daughter in January. Shifrin received the award during a family-only ceremony in the suburban St. Louis apartment that he shares with his wife of 67 years.

Shifrin landed on France's Normandy beach in June 1944 and was captured him on Aug. 7, and sent to Poland lockup Stalag IIIC.

He was among the camp's 1,000 prisoners, many of whom formed "an escape committee" and drew up a

getaway plan.

Each morning when the Germans did a numerical headcount — no names were called out - a prisoner would hide, starting a futile search by guards. The befuddled guards would lower the next day's headcount by one.

That continued with four prisoners hiding. Eventually, four men actually escaped, but the guards didn't notice.

Shifrin and some other prisoners got their he escaped. That's return in one chance in mid- about it. He didn't piece." January 1945, just weeks before the Russians liberated the camp. Dan Shifrin said

"the rest of their journey is pretty hazy," but what's known is they hitchhiked on Allied supply trucks and purloined rides on horses and bikes on their way to Italy. By that April, Shifrin was back on U.S. soil,

After getting his law degree,

he became a St. Louis attorney and worked well into his 80s. He seldom discussed his time at war.

"We knew he'd been in the war, that he had been captured and that he escaped. That's about it. He didn't talk about it," said Dan Shifrin.

We knew he'd

been in the war,

that he had been

talk about it.

Dan Shifrin

"My guess is he figured it was just part of his life - many went through it, many didn't return. Many of captured and that those who did return didn't

> Chronicling his dad's past, Dan Shifrin added, "gave me much greater

appreciation for what he and others went through."

"I guess also it's that these men and women are dying at an unbelievable rate and their stories are being lost. This is one more story we can tell and keep alive."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Trump put on the defensive

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL RACE

#### Wisconsin loss could stem front-runner's momentum

A frustrated Donald Trump worked to right his campaign on Sunday after a rough week and found himself on the defensive just two days before the closely watched primary in Wisconsin where he faces the prospect of a loss that could stem his momentum toward securing the Republican presidential nomination.

Trump trails Texas Sen. Ted Cruz in the polls in Wisconsin. A loss in Tuesday's primary will raise doubts that the billionaire real estate mogul can net the needed delegates to win the nomination outright, making it far easier for his party to oust him in a floor fight at the national convention in July.

Cruz, Trump's closest challenger, has only a small chance to overtake him in the delegate hunt before the convention. Ohio Gov. John Kasich has none.

Trump called for Kasich to drop out of the Republican race, arguing that the Ohio governor who's only won his home state so far shouldn't be allowed to continue accumulating delegates if he has no chance of being the nominee.

Working to recover his edge after a difficult week, Trump said Kasich could ask to be considered at the Republican convention in Cleveland even without competing in the remaining nominating contests. Trump told reporters at a Milwaukee diner that he had relayed his concerns to Republican Na-

Eau Claire, Wisconsin MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!

Donald Trump speaks during a rally in Eau Claire, Wis. on Saturday. THE EAU CLAIRE LEADER-TELEGRAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tional Committee officials at a meeting in Washington this past week.

"He's taking my votes," Trump said about Kasich.

Kasich's campaign tried to flip the script, contending that neither Trump nor Texas Sen. Ted Cruz would have enough delegates to win the nomination outright going into the convention.

Trump's declaration came as Republican concerns grew about the prospect of convention chaos if Trump fails to lock up his party's nomination — or even if he does.

Republicans fear an unseemly internal fight would damage the party in November's general election, and Trump isn't ruling out the possibility that if he's not the nominee, he could run as an independent, likely sinking Republican chances for winning the White House.

Wisconsin has emerged as a proving ground for anti-Trump forces as the front-runner's campaign stumbled, leading his rivals to question his maturity as a candidate.

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- Event cost: Free
- Who will be speaking: Muslim & Christian speakers
- · Location: Baitun Nur Mosque 4353 54 Ave NE, Calgary

(including Bishop Frederick Henry)

- RSVP: www.IslamEvents.ca
- Event type: Interfaith
- · When: April 9th 2016, Saturday
- Dinner: 5:30 pm

Proceeding: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

- · Who is invited: Everyone is welcome
- Phone: 403-874-4787







www.alislam.org

### **Netflix** cracking down

Canadian Netflix subscribers are the only ones who can't peek into the halls of Degrassi: Next Class. Viewers in Africa and Turkey can't see how the prisoners at Litchfield penitentiary are faring in Orange is the New Black.

Not all Netflix libraries were created equal due to international copyright and content licensing restrictions.

Some web-savvy folks have overcome those obstacles by streaming pirated content for free or using a virtual private network (VPN) to trick Netflix into streaming the shows and movies available in another country.

But it seems Netflix is tired of it. The company is cracking down on piracy and digital border hopping amid a global expansion that only omits China, Syria and Crimea.

Netflix has reportedly hired Vobile Inc., a company that helps firms protect their original content on the web, to tackle its piracy woes.

Over roughly the past four months, Vobile filed more than 350 takedown notices to Google, according to Lumen, a Harvard University Berkman Center for Internet and Society project studying online content takedown requests. The notices ask Google to remove the suspected URLs from its search results.

These requests pinpointed more than 96,000 URLs, according to Google's transparency report, many of which host streams to Netflix's original shows like House of Cards. Vobile did not respond to request for comment. But both Lumen and Google connect Vobile to the copyright owner Netflix2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Family

Love

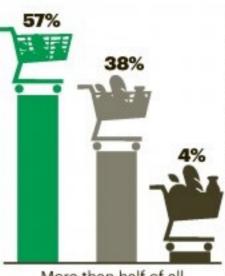
Marriage

Business

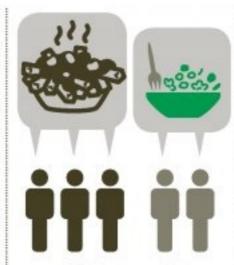
Court Cases

Husband Wife relationship

Lucky Numbers etc.



More than half of all Canadians say it's become more difficult to afford to feed their households in the last year. Just 4 per cent say it's easier.



In addition to switching to cheaper brands when shopping (71%), two-in-five (40%) say they've been choosing less healthy options in the aisle.



Two-in-three Canadians (63%) say rising food prices haven't been receiving enough attention from Canada's leaders, and more than half (53%) say the issue is "one of the most important" facing the country today.

## Canadians struggle with price of food

**ECONOMY** 

#### More people are making unhealthy sacrifices: Poll



Matt Kieltyka Metro Vancouver

Canadians are overwhelmingly feeling the pinch at the supermarket, according to a new poll.

The survey, conducted by the Angus Reid Institute, found 57 per cent of people across Canada believe it's become more difficult to afford food and feed their families within the last year.

That number goes up in regions that have been gripped in economic turmoil, like Alberta where two-thirds of people say paying for groceries has become more difficult.

What's striking about the findings, said Angus Reid Institute executive director Shachi Kurl, is that squeeze is being felt across all economic spectrums.

"What we found is that regardless of income levels, it is getting harder for people to feed their families and deal with the price of food," Kurl said.

"It's not surprising that people at lower income levels are finding it to be more difficult, but people who are in that middle class level, or even higher, are also replying it is (more difficult). That's something that really stood out."

While economists use job creation and the ups-and-downs of markets as the main telltale on the state of the economy, Kurl said people's thoughts on food prices provide a "basic and visceral" lens into affordability issues.

The growing cost of food has meant the majority of Canadians are altering their spending habits, and not always to their benefit.

Forty-two per cent of respondents admit they've cut back on fruit and vegetable purchases, while 40 per cent say they've chosen less healthy options because they tend to be cheaper.

A vast majority, 71 per cent, says they've switched to cheaper brands in an effort to save money, while 61 per cent of shoppers have cut back on meat due to high prices. Eight per cent of respondents have turned to food banks for help.

Whether prices reach a breaking point is dependent on individuals' circumstances, but the survey found a wideconsensus that elected politicians should be doing more to address food affordability.

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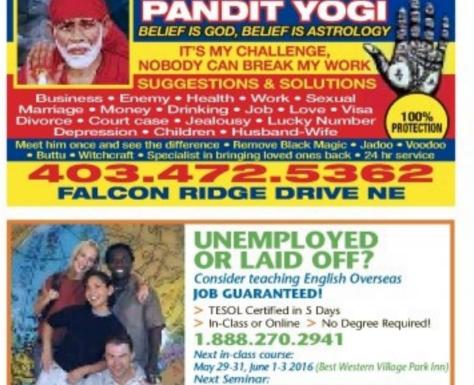
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#### ROSEMARY WESTWOOD ON A SUDDEN VICTORY **FOR ABORTION RIGHTS**

Last week came a truly stunning about-face for a province that has long tied itself in knots to placate pro-life voices.

In the end, abortion access in P.E.I. came down to the threat of a lawsuit.

For years, the province's Liberal government had been arguing it was doing right by women, offering to pay for them to have elective abortions at one of two pre-approved hospitals in other provinces. Travel and food costs? Not covered. Never mind lost wages or childcare.

In a stance that hadn't changed (no matter the political stripes of the ruling party) since 1988, when the Supreme Court struck down Canada's abortion law, P.E.I. has been governed by the contrarian Resolution 17. It states "life begins at conception, and any policy that permits abortion is unacceptable" (though it does allow abortions when the mother's life is at risk).

The lawsuit, announced in January and viewed by some as a last-ditch effort, claimed that all this violated P.E.I. women's charter rights. It was expected to drag on for years and run up a \$100,000 bill.

But then, last Thursday, came the rather amazing announcement from P.E.I.'s premier that decades of anti-abortion policies in the province were over.

Amazing because the last

safe, elective, in-province abortion occurred in 1982. Amazing because a decades-long fight ended with a sudden government announcement.

"Based on legal advice that current policies regarding access to in-province abortion services would likely be in violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, government determined that the most responsible approach is to revise the policy rather than embark on a long and costly court case," Premier Wade MacLauchlan said. In other words: "Uncle." Just like that.

And in the nick of time: The province had until April 4 to respond to the lawsuit's allegations. The premier admitted the suit had forced the government's hand. Abortion access could be up and running by the end of the year, he said.

It is a truly stunning aboutface for a province that has long tied itself in knots to placate pro-life voices. It did not offer in-province abortions when Health P.E.I.'s own investigation showed such a move would save money, in 2013. It did not agree to in-province abortions when a Washingtonbased organization offered to ship in doctors to perform them, in 2014. It did not offer in-province abortions when a

2014 research study found the province's system was harmful to women.

But that research would greatly inform the lawsuit. And the lawsuit would break the camel's back.

Colleen MacQuarrie, an associate professor of psychology at the University of Prince Edward Island, was a teenager when the last elective abortion was performed. She remembers "a very rancorous public campaign of shaming women and eradicating access to safe abortions."

Rancorous, and effective. But while MacQuarrie has been a feminist activist for years, it wasn't until 2010 that she began to focus on abortion in earnest. She created a community-based research project to investigate the impact of P.E.I's abortion policies over the last 20 years.

That year, 2010, the province created Health P.E.I., a single body responsible for all publicly funded health-care services on the island. Decades earlier, individual "therapeutic abortion committees" at various P.E.I. hospitals had been disbanded under pressure from pro-life groups. But Health P.E.I offered a new, single and effective target for abortion-rights activism.

MacQuarrie describes a swell of community support for her research, which spawned Abortion Access Now PEI, the group that brought the lawsuit, with the support of the national women's-rights non-profit LEAF,

Via interviews, including with two dozen women who had sought abortions, the study revealed that women found the system needlessly complicated and "intensely punishing.". Some women were blocked outright from getting abortions, "others selfinduced through painful procedures at home," according to a summary of the findings.

"The lawyers drew extensively on the work in the community" to build their case, MacQuarrie said. Her research became legal evidence. And that evidence was so convincing that P.E.I. balked at challenging it in court.

Thus it came down to women's voices, carefully collected, forcefully broadcast. "More than once they said, Tve never told anyone and I'm only telling you this now so it will change for the next woman," MacQuarrie said.

P.E.I. had "callously compromised women's health for political expediency," MacQuarrie said, showing it didn't "give a care" about the women's experiences and suffering. But the broad-based and rowing abortion-rights activists on P.E.I. had a single, clearly definable goal. They pursued it doggedly.

And while it seems uncanny that such a fierce battle could end with such a simple white flag, it is also instructive. You can lose for decades, and then, spectacularly: you win.

#### **Catherine McKenna's** candid talk on carbon is blunt for a politician



You can leaf through a calendar and point to a number of spots where a Liberal government seemingly on cruise control is heading for some heavy weather.

You can choose assisted suicide or electoral reform — but if you bet on a national carbon pricing regime and a battle over a pipeline heading east from Alberta as the toughest challenges in the near-term, you would probably win.

Catherine McKenna, the federal environment minister. made that clear at the Broadbent Institute's Progress Summit, where she delivered the type of blunt talk one doesn't expect from politicians.

She sat on a panel with Alberta environment minister Shannon Phillips and Vancouver city councillor Andrea Reimer. They spoke of collaboration, respectful discussion and "tantrum-free zones" as the way ahead.

But Phillips reminded the Ottawa crowd that people are hurting in her province, that \$10 billion in royalty revenues have disappeared, that goodpaying oilpatch jobs are gone, homes and vehicles are being lost and charitable donations are down.

McKenna wants to lead

the transition to a low-carbon economy, but she is dealing with diverse provincial economies, raw political sensibilities and those in the oilpatch who are not just hurting economically but are starting to believe this Liberal government would just as soon leave the bitumen in the ground.

"I'm a realist on this. There are a lot of people who have lost jobs in Alberta," McKenna said. "That doesn't mean we destroy our planet, but we need to be thoughtful of how we move forward."

And she also realistically told the audience many Canadians don't see climate change as a threat.

The federal government bringing the federal hammer down is a great way to split the country, McKenna knows: "If we do something overnight that has a huge, immediate dislocating effect on the economy where tons of people lose jobs, I'm losing everyone."

And she acknowledged the political dynamite her government is handling.

"I get nervous about the way the conversations sometimes go, that it's east versus west," she said. "There will be hard conversations."

Here's hoping they are also "tantrum-free."

Tim Harper is a national affairs columnist for the Toronto Star.



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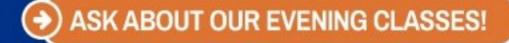
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Your essential daily news

Demi Lovato and Caitlyn Jenner win GLAAD Media Awards



Now that Annick is consumer-debt free, will she make good money choices? Metro's finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie has only a few weeks left to hammer home the financial wisdom she's trying to share with Annick and Yolanda.

## Annick crushes consumer debt



## metromoney

THE CHALLENGE: Annick, 24 and from Calgary and Yolanda, 27 and from Mississauga, have only two weeks left in Metro's 12-week financial Makeover. Financial guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie is helping these women break bad financial habits, eliminate their debt and start saving and investing for the future. Can these young women reach their net worth goals (assets minus liabilities)? Follow us @LesleyScorgie #MetroMoneyMakeover

THIS WEEK: Annick finally gets a financial break. Unlike previous years in which she's had to pay Canada Revenue Agency, after filing her taxes for 2015, she's received a sizable refund.

**NEXT WEEK:** Yolanda and Annick have overhauled their finances, but has it been enough to steer their financial ships in a better direction? We're going to showcase their money milestones and identify financial pitfalls they'll need to avoid as we conclude the Metro Money Makeover



Annick is all smiles after decimating her consumer debt. JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO CALGARY

#### THE SITUATION

It's almost enough to bring someone to tears — the day they become debt free. Minus her student loan, that happened for Annick late last

She's been lugging around

shoes and concert tickets (Beyoncé being the latest), and dealing with Alberta's rotten

H&R Block's Caroline Battista agreed to meet with Annick about her taxes a few

ered unused tuition credits from 2012.

When combined with her contributions to her group RRSP through work and other applicable tax credits, a refund of \$2,780 was issued to Annick.

The government immediately clawed back \$280 of the refund because of last year's taxes owing.

But with the remaining \$2,500, Annick hasn't wasted a single moment.

She's paid off her credit card balances of \$1,675 and other loans totalling \$350. This has left her with \$475 from which she can apply the one third rule: 1/3 to savings, 1/3 to her student loan and 1/3 to spend how she wishes.

#### THE LESSON

The moment a person becomes consumer debt-free, their monthly cash flow transforms.

In Annick's case, she was ploughing \$750 to \$900 per month towards her debts and now she can use that money towards other goals such as building a down payment for her first home or eventually returning to school to complete graduate studies in business.

Rather than waking up with the weight of financial worry on her chest, she can start dreaming about her

#### S NET WORTH

Assets	Dec.	April			
RRSP	350	1,000			

#### Total Assets \$1,000

#### Liabilities

58,800	58,200
1,500	0
650	0
1,600	0
250	0
	1,500 650 1,600

Total Liabilities (\$58,200)

Net worth (\$57,200)

future.

The next three months will be critical for Annick. The temptation to spend her newfound cash flow is huge. It's generally the period of time in which a person either reverts back to old, and unhealthy, financial habits, or they learn the lessons permanently and never return.

The unknown for Annick is whether she's suffered enough financial hardship to learn that financial freedom only comes to those who are willing to work for it and to those who don't repeat the same financial mistakes.

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE IS A BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND FOUNDER OF MEVEST, A MONEY COACHING SERVICE FOR CAN-ADIANS, FOLLOW HER @LESLEYSCORGIE

thousands of dollars in loans and credit card balances for years due to the high costs of her education, setting up her home here in Canada (she's originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo). a few too many splurges on

economy.

weeks ago and quickly uncov-



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Money metr@LIFE

## The hidden costs of owning a home



Your mortgage payment is far from your only expense when owning a home. ISTOCK

**PROS AND CONS** 

#### Dispelling the myth that renters are wasting money

Gail Vaz-Oxlade For Metro Canada

Home ownership may have been sold as the Canadian dream, but it's not for every-

your needs the best?

First, have you got the cash flow to make home ownership work?

When people say that home ownership costs the same as renting they're talking out their hats.

I live in a fully-paid-for home and it cost me \$1,400 a month to carry my house in 2015.

There are property taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance.

Ah, maintenance, the part of the equation everyone wants to sweep under the rug.

But if you do, you shouldn't be surprised when your most expensive indulgence comes tumbling down around your

#### Do the math:

1. Figure out what you'd

likely spend to buy a place of your own.

2. Calculate the mortgage payment.

Add in the property taxes (monthly, you can estimate \$400), utilities (need an estimate? Try \$250/mo.), property insurance (I pay about \$120/month) and maintenance (estimate \$400/month for now, it probably needs to be more, but that's a start). That's what it'll cost you to carry your new home.

So how do you know if 4. Subtract the rent you're ownership is the thing for currently paying and put the you or if renting will serve difference into a high-interest savings account every single month.

> If you can do that without missing a step — and

that means not using your credit card or line of credit or OD protection to fill the gap — then you're ready to start planning for home ownership.

About how much you'll need to set aside per month to cover maintenance costs on a house.

If not.

you've got to keep renting. Next, think about whether you want to put down roots or if you like being able to pick up and go when the opportunity arises.

Is relocating for work a thing you'd consider?

If so, the costs of buying and selling may be prohibi-

The sales commission, closing costs, legal fees and land transfer taxes can wipe out any equity you've built up, assuming the market has been going up in your area.

And if the market has taken a turn for the worse just when you're pulling up roots, you'll have to swallow the loss.

Finally, do you want to live where you can afford to buy? I know heaps of people who have moved far away from friends and family, from their jobs, from neighbourhoods they love just to own a home.

If you add commuting costs which people seem never to calculate into home-buying decision - both in terms of money and time, you could end up ruing the decision to buy.

> And if you end up living in a place you hate, well, why would you do that just to own?

It's time to stop thinking that people who don't have home ownership as a goal are lacking in ambition, unmotivated,

or lower than the belly of a snake.

Sure, home ownership is a good idea and works for some people.

For others, it doesn't, plain and simple.

For more money advice, visit Gail's website at gailvazoxlade.

### Canada unbeaten after first weekend in Switzerland

#### Calgary's Koe sits 3-0 after opening draws

It was a perfect weekend in the standings for Canada at the men's world curling championship, even it wasn't always perfection on the ice.

Canada improved to 3-0 with a 10-9 win over the United States in the late draw at the St. Jakobshalle arena in Basel, Switzerland. It was Canada's second extra-end win of the day, as Kevin Koe and his Calgary rink put themselves in situations where they had to make tough, high pressure shots to win.

Earlier, Canada fought back for an 11-8 extra-end win over Denmark that required a tough takeout on Koe's last rock.

"It's hard for us. We're just so used to making so many shots, and we're missing shots here by 20 feet, easy," Koe said. "It's tough to get draw weight out here.

"But you know what? It's the same for both teams. The sheets will get worked in and more consistent as the week goes on. We got lucky today, but we're 3-and-0."

Canada escaped the weekend tied atop the round-robin standings with defending champion Sweden. Niklas Edin's rink improved to 3-0 with an 8-4 win over Germany.

In other scores from the tour-

nament's fifth draw, Japan beat Switzerland 9-6 and Denmark downed Finland 9-2.

Japan and Denmark moved into a five-way tie for fifth at 2-1 with Norway, Russia and Scotland.

Canada was almost part of that logjam when American skip John Shuster made an impressive runback double takeout to score three in the ninth end and take a 9-7 lead.

But Koe, backed up by third Marc Kennedy, second Brent Laing and lead Ben Hebert, hit for a deuce in the 10th end to force the extra frame.

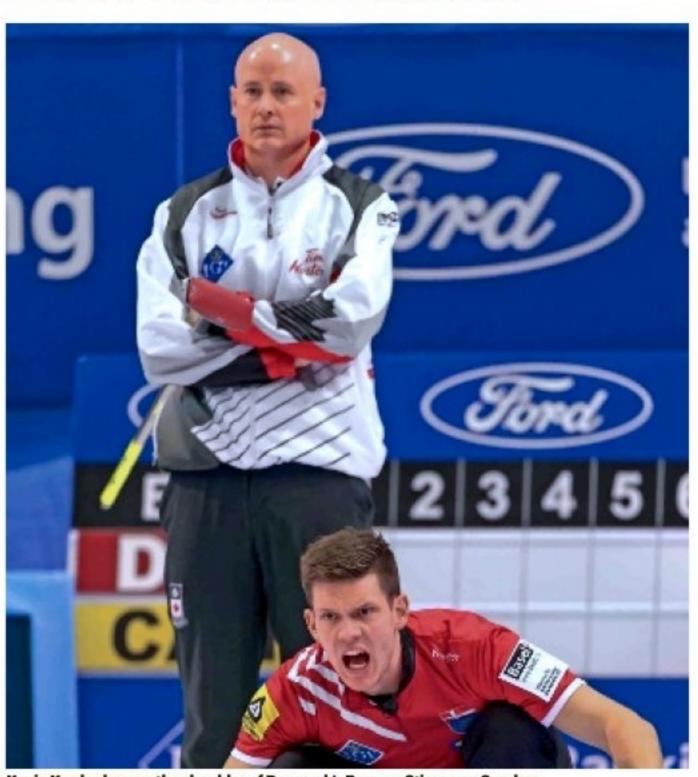
Canada caught a massive break in the 11th end when U.S. third Tyler George's peel attempt on a Canadian guard jammed, and left the Canadians sitting one rock in the four-foot ring.

Shuster attempted a double takeout for the win, but was

In the afternoon draw, Canada fell behind Denmark early when Rasmus Stjerne made a marvellous double-takeout in the second end to score three. After holding Canada to a single in the fourth, the Danes took advantage of a Koe miss in the fifth to steal one and take a 5-2 lead at the intermission.

Canada rebounded with two in the sixth and a key steal of two in the seventh en route to

"We escaped a little today, but we're 3-and-0, I know this team," Koe said. "I know we're going to get better.... I think we're in a great spot."THE CANADIAN PRESS



Kevin Koe looks over the shoulder of Denmark's Rasmus Stjerne on Sunday.

GEORGIOS KEFALAS/KEYSTONE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



#### Jets send fans home for summer with a victory

Mark Scheifele scored his team-leading 27th goal of the season as the Winnipeg Jets gave their fans something to cheer about on Sunday with a 5-1 victory over the Minnesota Wild in their last home game of the season.

Fans gave the playoffless team a standing ovation with shouts of "Go Jets Go" during the final minute of the game at MTS Centre and the players raised their sticks to the crowd after the final buzzer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

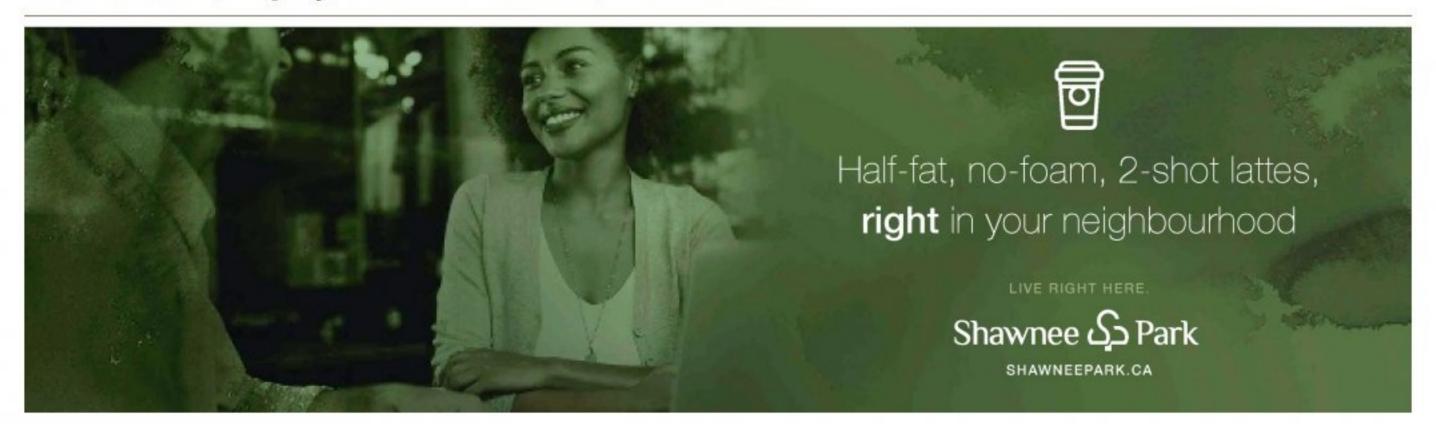
#### Flames get one last win at Rexall Place

The Calgary Flames had one last chance to rain on Edmonton's parade and were more than happy to do so.

Johnny Gaudreau and Mikael Backlund each scored twice and goalie Joni Ortio made 28 saves for the shutout as the Flames snapped a twogame losing skid with a 5-0 victory over the Edmonton Oilers on Saturday.

"I think our third period was one of the best we've played in a while, maybe all year," Ortio said. "When we had our chances to put them away we did, that was a great effort."

It was the Flames last games against their rivals at Rexall Place as the Oilers moving into a new downtown arena next SCASON. THE CANADIAN PRESS



metr#sports **26** Monday, April 4, 2016

## Thanks to Troy, Jays get a flying start



Troy Tulowitzki hit the first home run of the Major League season Sunday.

BRIAN BLANCO/GETTY IMAGES

#### Tulo homers, Stroman goes eight strong in victory No. 1

Marcus Stroman outpitched Chris Archer in his first opening day start, helping the Toronto Blue Jays begin defence of their first AL East title in 22 years with a 5-3 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Sunday.

Stroman allowed three runs and six hits over eight-plus innings for the Blue Jays, who won 93 games in 2015 before making a run to the AL Championship Series in their first playoff appearance since 1993.

SUNDAY At Tampa Bay





Troy Tulowitzki hit the first home run of the 2016 MLB season, a two-run shot for Toronto. Edwin Encarnacion had two hits and drove in two runs after not having an at-bat in a major league exhibition all spring training because of injuries.

The Blue Jays, the highest-scoring team in the majors last year, struck quickly on Encarnacion's two-run single in the first.

Archer struck out a Rays opening-day record 12 in five innings. But Encarnacion got him early and Kevin Pillar added an RBI single in the fourth. The righthander limited the Blue Jays to five hits, but walked three during a 107-pitch outing.

Evan Longoria had two hits and drove in Tampa Bay's first run with a third-inning single. Offseason acquisition Corey Dickerson added a solo homer off Stroman leading off the ninth and Kevin Kiermaier drove in the final run charged to the starter with a

Marcus Stroman **GETTY IMAGES**  bloop single off Roberto Osuna. Osuna got the last three outs for the save.

> At 24 years, 338 days old, Stroman became the thirdyoungest pitcher to make an opening day start for the Blue Jays.

> "I want to finish games. That's the mentality. That's the motto," Stroman said.

"It didn't work out, but I look forward to getting out there the next time and going nine."

> He earned the assignment after making just four starts, going 4-0 with a 1.67 ERA, in

2015, when he missed most of the season after undergoing surgery on his left knee during spring training.

"He competes as well as anybody I've ever seen," Tulowitzki said. "When Stro takes the mound, it's different. He raises the bar and makes you want to match his energy. Just the swag that he has is second to none, really."

Veteran knuckleballer R.A. Dickey starts the second game of a four-game series Monday. He was 11-11 with a 3.91 ERA in 2015.

Lefty Drew Smyly, 5-2 with, 3.11 ERA in 12 starts last season, starts Monday. He's 1-0 with a 1.10 ERA in five career appearances against Toronto.

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## Leicester basking early in title glow

After a fourth successive 1-0 victory sent Leicester into a seven-point lead, some giddy fans started to unfurl Premier League "champions" scarves in the King Power Stadium.

Although there are still six games remaining after Sunday's gritty win over Southampton, celebrations are already underway in this unassuming central England town.

When you've experienced the roller-coaster of emotions endured by followers of Leicester, it is little wonder they can't wait for the unlikeliest of Premier League title parties next month.

Exactly a year ago, Leicester was braced for relegation while stranded seven points from safety at the bottom of the Premier League. The standings on Sunday showed Leicester seven points clear at the right end, looking down on north London teams Tottenham and Arsenal, and Manchester rivals City and United.



Morgan scored for Leicester **GETTY IMAGES** 

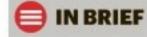
tain Wes Morgan secured Sunday's victory with his first goal of the season on the eve of the first anniversary of the start of the great escape.

Leicester cap-

It was the April 4, 2015 triumph

over West Ham that sparked a startling resurgence. Six of the final nine games of last season were won as Leicester not only beat the drop but gained the confidence that has been carried into this season.

April 4 is also the birthday of the Thai retail tycoon who has owned Leicester for six years and will surely be the first chairman in the club's 132-year history to lift the English topflight trophy in May. Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha was serenaded by his players on Sunday with a "Happy Birthday" greeting his pre-match arrival in the arena. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



#### West Indies bedevil England with 6-6-6-6

Carlos Brathwaite struck four straight sixes in the last over of the World Twenty20 cricket final to seal a dramatic fourwicket win for West Indies over England on Sunday in Kolkata, India.

West Indies needed 19 runs in the 20th over which Brathwaite (34 not out) provided in style by smashing Ben Stokes for sixes off the first four balls.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Herman masterful in Texas

Jim Herman delivered a major performance at just the right time Sunday in the Shell Houston Open.

Herman, winless in 105 previous starts on the PGA Tour, chipped in for birdie on the par-3 16th and finished with two solid pars for a 4-under 68 and a oneshot victory that sends him to the Masters for the first time in his career.

Herman tapped in for par and thrust both fists in the air after victory over Henrik Stenson. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### **RECIPE** Thai chicken curry



Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh For Metro Canada

If you can get your hands on fish sauce, it really does make a difference in the depth of flayour in this (and many other) creamy, not-too-spicy curry.

#### Ready in

Prep time: 5 minutes Cook time: 30 minutes

#### Ingredients

- 3 Tbsp vegetable or coconut oil
- 3 Tbsp curry paste
- Pinch ground cumin and ground coriander
- ·11/2 cups (350 ml) coconut milk · 11/2 lb (750g) chicken thighs
- or breasts, cut into chunks
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- · 2 Tbsp fish sauce
- 1 Tbsp lime leaves (optional)
- 2 Tbsp peanut butter

- · Pinch salt · Fresh coriander, chopped
- · Lime wedges, to serve

- Heat the oil in a large frying pan. Fry the curry paste and spices for a couple of minutes
- 2. Add 1/3 of the coconut milk and reduce the heat. Add the chicken and stir until the spices and milk combine.
- 3. Add the remaining coconut milk then stir in the sugar, fish sauce and lime leaves. Bring the sauce to the boil, simmer for a few minutes then add the peanut butter and salt.
- Simmer for 20 minutes. Garnish with the chopped coriander and serve with the lime wedges.

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1. Unfeeling 5. One of WWW's Ws 8. Ms. Bombeck's 13. Burning Plastic Band Pastoral print 17. Lululemon selections: 2 wds. 19. House of Henry VIII 20. Hotel casino in Las Vegas: 2 wds. 22. Word variety, briefly 25.British soap opera, to fans 26. "\_\_ Rebel" by The Crystals 27. Disney 'work' song 29. Have \_ '\_ ' (Know 'somebody') 31. Earth goddess in Das Rheingold 32. Vienna is its cap. 34. Tip-offs 38. New World citizens, e.g. 40. Canuck band, 41 42. Contempt 43. "Zip-a-Dee-\_-\_" 45. \_-Oil (Skincare brand) 47. Bout ender. commonly 48. Old\*Testament bk. 50. "I Don't Feel Like Dancin": \_\_ Sisters hit

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maneuveree 3. Aircraft in "Top Gun" (1986) 4. Talk big 5. Fantastic Participate 7. \_ and Herzegovina Shakespeare: "\_\_

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9. Calgary \_ (National Lacrosse League team) 10. Moose's girlfriend in Archie Comics A Lesson from \_ (Athol Fugard play) 12. Bed company 14. Era 18.1973: "Elvis: \_

from Hawaii" 21. "99 Luftballons" band 22. Out front 23. Skin doctor, fun-style 24. 'V' in VCR 28. Winnipeg neighbourhood: or, nickname of St. Catharines. Ontario: 2 wds. 30. French pronoun 33. Li'l long sandwich 35. Oven-made meal 36. See if the shirt is the right size: 2 wds. 37. Huff 39. Jazz instrument, commonly 41. Placed the 'Z' papers in the 'Y' folder 44. \_ Sound (Fjordy locale on BC's coast northwest of Vancouver) 46. Eye-related prefix 49. Cape \_\_, Nunavut 51. \_\_ ease (Jittery) 52. Go out with \_\_\_ (Depart with flair) 53, 1869: Character in War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy, \_ Rostova 54. Boring tool 56. Conjure up 59. Brother on "Bonanza" 60. \_. round (Tournament part) 63. Graduate's degree, e.g. 64. Single 65. Network in Dire Straits' "Money for Nothing"

#### **\* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS** Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20 Tread carefully today, because people are quarrelsome. Don't lose your temper or be self-indulgent with your emotions. Stay chill.

Taurus April 21 - May 21 Relations with a female friend or a member of a group are dicey today, because emotions are hot and unstable. Arguments will break out easily. Avoid important topics.

Gemini May 22 - June 21 Do not go toe to toe with an authority figure today, because you will regret it. Meanwhile, if someone overreacts with you, don't impulsively quit your day job. Be cool.

Cancer June 22 - July 23 Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because people are quick to argue. You have to know when to hold and when to fold.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23 Disputes about shared property, inheritances and financial issues are emotionally loaded today. Postpone these talks for another day.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 Be patient with partners and close friends, because arguments can break out easily today. That's because the Moon is at odds with fiery Mars, and everyone is looking for a fight.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23 Relations with co-workers will be challenged today. You will be best off by keeping your head down and your powder dry.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22 Parents need to be patient with their kids today, because everyone is prickly and inclined to argue. It's good to know that patience is the antidote to anger.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21 The Moon is at odds with Mars in your sign today, which means family arguments could break out, especially with females. This won't happen if you keep your breezy sense of humour.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20 Don't be quick to argue with others today, especially siblings, relatives and neighbors. Arguments over sales agreements and negotiations might occur. Stay chill.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19 You might be distressed today about money or something you own, which could lead to an argument with someone. But will this solve anything? Try to relax.

#### )-( Pisces

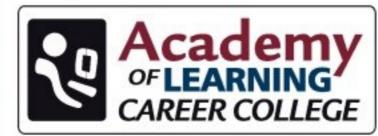
Feb. 20 - March 20 Today the Moon is in your sign at odds with Mars at the top of your chart, which is a sure indication of arguments with parents, bosses and VIPs.

#### **CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green**

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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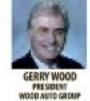
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